

CLASSIFICATION SECRET  
NOFORNCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC General Information from the Area of Mechanized KVP Division Potsdam

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 22 July 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 5

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 22 April 1955, a shipment of guns arrived at Jueterbog from the northwest. It included 23 guns, presumably of light caliber, and a boxcar which was occupied by KVPs wearing blue service color. The guns had plain disk wheels and rearward-bent shields. The barrels projected about 1.6 meters beyond the shields. 1
2. On 12 May 1955, a train of 12 to 15 flatcars passed through Jueterbog from the direction of Luckenwalde and went toward Wittenberg or Falkenberg. Each car was loaded with a camouflaged gun and was escorted by 1 or 2 KVPs. The type of the gun carriages and the barrels which were about 4 meters long tended to indicate that these weapons were AA guns. 2
3. In mid-May 1955, the vacated rooms in the building of the district government in Potsdam which formerly housed the Napola (Nazi school) were occupied by KVPs who wore various service colors. 3 25X1
4. On 7 June 1955, 20 armored scout cars, 1 truck and 1 tank truck passed through Lenin Allee, formerly Zeppelin Allee, to the southwest. The drivers of the trucks were KVPs.
5. In early June 1955, several KVPs who wore violet-bordered blue collar patches were again observed in the area of the city. They said that they belonged to a special unit which was located at 103 Heinrich Mann Allee. A jeep which was occupied by 4 KVPs wearing violet-bordered blue collar patches 4 25X1
6. On 14 June 1955, 3 companies wearing medium-blue service color which came from the Ruinenberg Kaserne and 2 of which presumably consisted of recruits practiced in the area of Bornstedter Feld. The barracks installation quartered an estimated 1,300 men. 5 25X1

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7. On 11 June 1955, 12 squads of soldiers who wore red-bordered black collar patches drilled with and without rifles in the area of the Garde du Corps Kaserne on Behlert Strasse. Two groups of 8 men received instruction at two 37-mm AA guns. Three platoons wearing red-bordered black collar patches were observed at marching practices. Two platoons of recruits received drill in the courtyard on Stalin Allee. The reconstruction of the building wing which included about 25 rooms was completed. The men in the installation totalled an estimated 200 recruits and 60 older soldiers. According to a KVP officer, some portions of the AAA unit were in Altengrabow due to the present shortage of rooms.
8. On 14 June 1955, about 500 recruits who wore medium-blue service color were observed at drill in the area of the installation at 5 Heinrich Mann Allee. At about 1700, a company of soldiers wearing medium-blue service color who carried field packs entered the installation from the direction of Michendorf. An area of about 5 hectares which was located nearby was scheduled to be used as a drill ground. 4
9. The area around the Teufels See (lake) which, a KVP officer said, was used as a KVP training ground, was enclosed by a barbed-wire fence. 5
10. According to the same officer, the older classes were scheduled to move from the Ruinenberg Kaserne to Luetze in about June 1955. They said that 6 different units were located in the Gen.Wever Kaserne. 5, 7
11. On 12 June 1955, it was learned that 500 passport photographs for the billets in the Heinrich Mann Kaserne, 200 passport photographs for the Ruinenberg Kaserne, 200 for the Garde du Corps Kaserne and 200 for the Gen.Wever Kaserne had to be made. 4, 5, 7, 8
12. In mid-June 1955, all soldiers quartered in the building at 103 Heinrich Mann Allee wore blue collar patches while they had worn different service colors prior to late May. The color of their collar patches distinctly differed from that of the KVP soldiers who were quartered in the Ruinenberg Kaserne. Red collar patches were no longer observed. 4
13. On 16 June 1955, the new KVP billets east of Heinrich Mann Allee, which was bounded by Horst Weg, Schlaatz Strasse and Rutherwinkel quartered about 500 to 600 men, most of whom were recruits. They wore violet and, occasionally, light-red service color. Intensive training activity, mainly individual drill with and without rifles, was observed. The soldiers wearing light-red collar patches had apparently already reached an advanced state of training. They allegedly belonged to a guard battalion. Twenty-five trucks and 3 sedans were parked in the area of the installation.

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14. In mid-June 1955, the former building of the Epileptic District Hospital on Heinrich Mann Allee, formerly Alte Zauche, from which all offices were evacuated last spring, was occupied by KVP units. 4
15. From 20 May to 20 June 1955, the KVP billets on the Brandenburg road in Prennitz quartered an estimated 800 men. Sentries and enlisted men observed at the installation wore red-bordered black collar patches. During the time of information, a total of up to about 650 men was frequently observed at drill, record practices with rifles and instruction in the area of the installation and at the Prennitz-Moegelin training ground. Improvement of this training ground such as entrenching work and dugout repairing continued with detachments of up to 350 men involved. On 13 June 1955, about 80 men received theoretical instruction at 20 trucks. No heavy weapons were observed. 9
16. On 9 June 1955, the KVP camp north of the air strip at the Ferchels-Mallitz training ground quartered about 60 to 80 men only. It included 6 partially brick-constructed two-story quartering barracks, 3 partially brick-constructed two-story kitchen-and-mess barracks, a tank storage shed of a capacity of about 15 tanks and a motor-vehicle storage shed of a capacity of 15 to 20 trucks. No heavy weapons were observed. It was noted that there was no activity at the entire training ground. A total of 20 gun emplacements which apparently were recently constructed were observed southwest of Schollene, near Ferchels and Karlsthal. 10
17. From 3 to 15 June 1955, another 68 recruits arrived at the section of the Granienburg concentration camp which was occupied by KVPs. It was mentioned that the units were scheduled to leave for summer exercises as late as early August 1955 after the conclusion of the recruits' basic training. On 14 June 1955, all units assembled at the assembling site. They totalled an estimated 1,500 men. An undetermined number of soldiers was daily observed at drill and record practices around the former Klinkewerk (brickyard) on the Lehnitz sluice. 11
18. On 15 June 1955, fresh imprints such as those caused by 2 or 3 tanks led from the concentration camp through Stalin Allee to the Granienburg freight station. 11
19. From 15 to 18 June 1955, reinforced VP patrols who wore green uniforms were observed in the area of the city. During this time, the VPs were apparently on the alert. 12
20. On 21 June 1955, the area of the former Melde liqueur factory on the Basdorf - Berlin road at the exit of Basdorf which was taken over by the KVP in about March 1955 was partially occupied by KVPs. Reconstruction and modernizing work was scheduled to be completed by 1 August 1955. A door in a barrack was inscribed regimental office. The KVPs in the billeting area who were observed at fatigue work wore distinctive blue collar patches. 13

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1. Comment. The guns are possibly 45-mm AT guns which were to be surrendered to the KVP Central Ordnance Depot in [redacted] and exchanged for heavier models. [redacted] 25X1
2. Comment. The shipment has possibly included component units of AAA Regiment Potsdam who went to Altengrabow for record firing practices. [redacted] 25X1
3. Comment. Coincident observations have been mentioned in a previous report. [redacted] 25X1 406
4. Comment. The number of 500 men reported as quartered in the installation is regarded as relatively reliable. The motor-vehicle numbers and the violet-bordered blue and light-red collar patches observed as well as the reported assumption of a guard battalion tend to indicate that the installation quarters no KVPs as previously believed, but rather SFS soldiers. The observation of medium-blue service color which is worn by KVP tank and mechanized troops was consequently erroneous. For the remainder, reference is made to [redacted] 2
5. Comment. The 2d Mech Regt of the subject division is known to be in the Ruinenberg Kaserne in Potsdam. [redacted] 25X1
6. Comment. [redacted] the establishing of an artillery range and a training ground on the Toufels See (lake), 5 kilometers south of the Potsdam railroad station. [redacted] 25X1
7. Comment. Component units of Mechanized Division Potsdam which are definitely assumed as located in the Gen. Wever Kaserne in Potsdam-Miche include the signal battalion, the reconnaissance battalion, the motor transport company, the tank repair base, the bakery company, and the supply transloading point. [redacted] 25X1
8. Comment. See paragraph 7, this report. [redacted]
9. Comment. The mortar regiment of the subject division is known in Premnitz. The improving of the training area in Premnitz-Moerelin [redacted] has been mentioned in a previous report. [redacted] 25X1
10. Comment. The present whereabouts of the units which have frequently been reported from this installation is unknown. [redacted] 25X1
11. Comment. The 1st Mech Regt and the medium tank regiment of the subject division are assumed in the Granienburg concentration camp. [redacted] 25X1

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